

500 Attend Tribute Dinner to Carl Laemmle, Sr., at Ambassador, Los Angeles

Canadian Moving Picture DIGEST

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RAY LEWIS

Editor and Publisher

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THE LITTLE PAPER WITH THE BIG IDEAS

"Easy to Digest"

Vol. 28, No. 2

TORONTO 2, CANADA

May 2nd, 1936

AS OTHERS SEE US



THE Digest Memorial Number to His Late Majesty, King George V, has received many tributes from the press and representative citizens of Canada

and England, including prominent representatives of our Industry.

To all those who contributed, the tributes and our thanks are due. Had we not received this important co-operation, we would not have had the inspiration to have carried out this desire to identify our Industry with the world-wide expressions of respect, in memory of His Late Majesty, King George V.

To Mr. Alexander Korda, of London Films, our first public word of appreciation is due, since it was with Mr. Korda that the editor of The Digest discussed the Digest Memorial Number, outlining the form it would take, and when Mr. Korda said, "I like the idea," we liked it in the first place, and that settled it.

Thanks to Mr. Charles Pettijohn for telling us, "Your Memorial Number was a splendid piece of work. It is something we will all want to keep in our 'archives'."

To Mr. D. E. Bankart, of Northern Electric, "permit me also to congratulate you upon the dignified nature of the Memorial issue which contains many items of unusual interest."

To Mr. P. D. Cochrane for his sincere tribute, so short and so sweet in that one word, "swell".

To Paul Gulick, of Universal, for his praise, to S. Barret McCormick who states, "I offer my congratulations on the very beautiful and impressive issue."

To Monroe Greenthal who writes, "I think it was handled absolutely beautifully. The message it contains and the way it was presented—together with the dignity of its handling—makes this issue one which I will always remember, and surely retain."

The Hon. W. D. Ross, Board of Directors of

Famous Players, "A beautiful and dignified number which I will treasure."

The Director of the Royal Ontario Museum of Archaeology, Prof. C. Currelly, "Ever so many thanks for your Digest. I wish to present it to Victoria College Library so that it may be guarded, as it will be a good historical document." - - - Other comments next issue.

Meanwhile we publish an editorial from the New Glasgow Evening News, for which our thanks, Mr. Editor.

New Glasgow Evening News
(One of Nova Scotia's Leading Dailies)

"CONGRATULATIONS, RAY LEWIS!"

"THE Evening News has received a copy of the Canadian Moving Picture Digest Memorial Number to His Late Majesty, King George V, and we are much taken up with its contents. Artistic and beautifully mounted, the special issue carries numerous intimate photographs of the Royal Family at the time of the coronation up to the Jubilee celebrations of last year, many of them entirely new to us. There is a wealth of reading matter in connection therewith.

"The Digest is the only British motion picture trade paper on the American continent. It was established in 1915, and this year celebrates the 21st birthday of its publication. It has the added distinction of being the only motion picture trade paper in the world which is published and edited by a woman.

"To Ray Lewis and staff of The Digest we extend congratulations for a very creditable number — and may it long continue to reflect the Canadian viewpoint in matters pertaining to the film industry!"

Editorial—Friday, April 24th, 1936.



RAY



RAY LEWIS

PRESENTS

I HAVE an editorial from Canada's Weekly, London, England, in which the Editor appears to agree with me that the British Film Quota is not an "Unmixed Blessing". The fact that the editor of the English publication believes that the views of Mr. Lewis "deserve consideration", does not detract from the importance of this viewpoint, because the Quota summary was made by Ray Lewis, who is no "Mr."

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—Jan. 17, 1936.

I have also two articles, one published in the "Current Comment" column of *Halifax, N.S. Herald*, of February 25, 1936, and one in "The Tribune", of Windsor, N.S., in which there are articles reprinted from *The Canadian Moving Picture Digest* on forthcoming productions. This is a result of *The Digest's* International Press Film Service, through which we syndicate Reviews, Feature articles, comments on pictures, to 500 leading newspapers in Canada, the United States and Great Britain.

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It is a wonderful time of the year to be in England. The country will be glorious.

I have a letter from Mr. A. S. Redfern, Secretary to the Governor-General of Canada, who writes, "His Excellency also wishes me to thank you for the additional copy of the Memorial issue of your publication which you have been good enough to send for His Majesty's acceptance."

A letter from Mr. Frederick L. Herron, foreign manager of M.P.P. & D. of American, Inc., who writes, "I saw a copy of the Memorial number and it is beautifully done. To me it is of tremendous interest, and I imagine other people look at it the same way I do. Not only is it of interest but I appreciate the splendid work you have done in putting these different things together to make such an attractive number."

AND now that I have published all the nice things these very kind people have said to The Digest, perhaps I had better say a few kind things about the Industry before all my available space is taken up. Welcome home, "Bernie"! Jules Bernstein, of Loew's, Toronto, recently returned from a holiday to the coast; I told "Bernie" to stop off at Tucson, Arizona, that the climate was great. I am afraid to call on "Bernie", because, I understand that he has a tomahawk ready for me for sending him 200 miles out of his way, to see a desert town with a Main Street, such as Sinclair Lewis never dreamed of.

Have a heart, "Bernie", I did not send you to see the town, but to smell the air, and I still stick to my story, the air, the desert flowers, the stars, the cactus forest, and Rodeo Week are great; incidentally *Heap Big Chief*, Nicholas Schenck visited Tucson, Arizona, last year, and I remember, when there was talk about the studios moving from Los Angeles, because of too, too much taxation, Mr. Schenck suggested that the studios move to Tucson, and Mr. Schenck would stay there, while Mr. Louis Mayer could move to New York to the M-G-M New York offices. I will take a peep into Loew's, Toronto, after this week's Digest gets into circulation, and see if this alibi for Tucson has gone over with "Bernie" — meanwhile, welcome home!

VISITED the Imperial, but missed my old friend, Tom Daley, who was away with "Flu" — glad to report, he is better and on the job again.

Visited The Uptown, and once again saw Anna Neagle and Sir Cedric Hardwicke in "Peg of Old Drury"; you know what I think of this picture. It went over big at The Uptown.

Ray Lewis Tells F.P. Shareholders that Directors Should Own More Than One Share

Ray Presents

(Continued from page 4)

Also made a visit to several theatres, all over Toronto; noticed that the big ones and the small have dressed up their houses. The "honky-tonks" are fast disappearing, and all of these theatres appear to be "doing business". New theatres are going up. Two \$100,000 theatres are now being constructed and plans for other theatres are being made. In fact, there appears to be a theatre impetus all over Canada, and it would not surprise me to find several new chains of theatres formed. Luigi Romanelli, for many years identified with the Allen Theatre circuit, as musical director, is now in the Exhibitors' department of our Industry. He has one theatre on St. Clair, and is interested in the construction of the \$100,000 Forest Hill Theatre.

Exhibitors are talking of buying theatres, re-constructing theatres, enlarging theatres, it is in the air and should be good for distribution!



VISIT from Mr. Barret Keisling, Assistant Manager of Publicity, M-G-M Coast Studio was the occasion of a luncheon meeting which many noted Shakespearean critics, authorities, professors, and other representative educationalists had an opportunity to see the "stills" on "Romeo and Juliet", and to learn many things about this magnificent M-G-M production with its two notable stars Norma Shearer and Leslie Howard, added to which there is a distinguished cast including John Barrymore, Bette Rathbone, Edna May Oliver, etc., etc. Canada will presumably see this M-G-M production of "Romeo and Juliet" early in October.

I also met Mr. Macon of The Globe, and Mr. Augustus Bridle of The Toronto Daily Star, and Mr. Keisling showed us the "Romeo and Juliet" pictures, gave us much useful information for publication, and Dewey Bloom of Regal Films saw to it that "a good time was had by all".

THE news reels on the Draegermen of Moanalua River, N.S., is great stuff. Toronto theatres were glad to have this news on the Screen and glad that the entombed mine-owners got out of the mine, for in addition to the human interest involved, what that Event did to Show Business can only be compared to Christmas Eve, or Holy Week, repeated for ten days. Canada was in no mood for anything but the Radio, and the latest news and bulletins concerning the release of the mine-owners at Moanalua River, N.S. Box-office receipts were as bad as a crash on Wall Street. Theatres in Canada are only beginning to recover from "Ten Days Which Shook Canada".

By the way, Gene Lockhart and Kathleen are very close to Canada, since Gene Lockhart is a Canadian. First, I must tell you that The Lockharts are with Warner Bros., and are one of our "happiest married couples", whom Warner Bros. are to present in a series of Comedies, following the delightful fashion of those Screenlets, in which Mr. and Mrs. Sidney Drew, of the Ye Good Olde Times appeared. As a boy, Gene Lockhart appeared with Beatrice Lillie on our Canadian concert platforms; and for several seasons he toured as a Scottish boy dancer with the famous 48th Highlanders Band of Toronto.

In 1909 he won the One Mile Swimming Championship of Canada; and he also played

Hollywood

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Ray Lewis Tells F.P. Shareholders that D. Successful Stock Season One Share

Previews

merous occasions, and surprisingly enough, manages to keep up the fast pace throughout the whole production. Carole Lombard is more attractive than ever — especially when she receives the black-eye — and her acting in this picture is very reminiscent of Joan Crawford in "Live My Life", and honestly, Carole, that's intended as a compliment. Preston Foster is perfect as the button-shing capitalist, who buys companies just so he can be a certain employee. Romero is good in a very unempathetic role, while Janet Beecher does some of the best work of her career as the indulgent parent.

Direction is by Walter Lang, and it is an Edmund Gaienger production.

One other thing that I nearly forgot, "Love Before Breakfast" introduces a new character to the public, a Japanese maid. We have had French maids, and Japanese house-boys, but never Japanese maids up till now, and I wouldn't be surprised if they were here to stay. Mia Ichioka plays the servant missee in this picture, and a fine job she does of it too.

On the stage at Shea's, along with the picture, "Love Before Breakfast" was another of Major Bowes' Amateur Units, No. 4, I believe. Several weeks ago I reviewed one of the Major's units, and so I will refrain from a regular review on this unit. However, I will say that the standard of these units is very high indeed, and even if some people do kick about the Major making too much money, you have to admit that he gives you something for your money. His radio programs are always interesting, and his stage units are better performances than a lot of so-called pros. Congrats from us, Major, you're doing a great job; keep up the good work.

T

Newton Brunson of Phoenix

av:
Jul

NEWTON BRUNSON, manager of the Rialto Theatre at Phoenix, was born forty-two years ago in the town of Orangeburg, South Carolina. Although he has been away from his home-town for many years now, he still retains his good old Southern accent, and because of that is known by the affectionate nickname of "Carolina".

His first job inside a theatre was acting in a home entertainment show put on by the Elks Club in Orangeburg. After he went away to Staunton Military Academy in Virginia, one of the finest schools of its kind in this country. Then came the war, and "Carolina" joined the aviation corps, but as he himself puts it "I did most of my flying to and fro from the Mess Halls".

Back from France, "Carolina" went back into Vaudeville, playing successively with Frank Tinney's Atta Boy company and Gus Hills Honey Boy Minstrels.

In 1920 he took over the management of the old Umbria Theatre in Phoenix, a Rickards-Nace house. The following year found him in charge of the Rialto Theatre in Winslow, and in 1922 he moved down to Yuma, where he had the Yuma and the Lyric Theatres, and by the newly formed partnership of Publix-Rickards-Nace.

From Yuma "Carolina" went to Alhambra, California, managing the Alhambra and El Rey houses, Principal theatres. And soon after he returned to Phoenix and took over the Publix-Rickards-Nace house, the Rialto, and has been there ever since.

Lulu in Hollywood



Lulu S. Niemeyer

THE breath-taking premiere of the "GREAT ZIEGFELD" is over, proving that the proper recital of a life history is the most thrilling thing one can witness. Probably the most outstanding thought, if it were possible to separate the mixed emotions after seeing such a magnificent spectacle would be, — definitely and positively Louise Rainer was born to play this part in this production.

However, it is unfair to segregate personalities, — for never was there a production so rightly cast. Nothing we can say will be needed or heeded probably. The world will flock to see this picture, — and believe you me, go away feeling they have been privileged persons. It's all the adjectives you ever heard rolled into one, and then some. Ray will tell you the story, as only Ray can. (Ray has.)

WARNER'S "THE LAW IN HER HANDS", with Margaret Lindsay, Glenda Farrell, Warren Hull, Lyle Talbot, and a good support. Directed by William Clemens. Is a so-so comedy of criminal rackets. The firm of Lindsay and Farrell as attorneys sans clients decide to go to town by barging in on the racket game, — and makes crime pay more or less, but in the end the district attorney gets Margaret, and she turns in her customer on a murder charge. Glenda does not get much of a break in the picture.

PARAMOUNT'S "THREE ON THE TRAIL", with William Boyd, Jimmy Ellison, Onslow Stevens, Muriel Evans, Clara Kimball Young and others is another and a better Hopalong Cassidy western, — and how we love it. Onslow the bad man tries to get Muriel, and Hopalong in many miles of country, winding up with a messy time in the saloon, shows him how it is not being done. Hopalong as usual gets hurt, but hands the gal to Jimmy her lover, — and you will like it.

TWENTIETH CENTURY-FOX, "THE FIRST BABY", with Johnny Downs, Shirley Deane, Jane Darwell, Dixie Dunbar, Gene Lockhart and others. Directed by Lewis Seiler. Will make many pinch themselves to see whether they are at home or abroad. Another mother-in-law saga, and should be seen by all such like critturs to teach them how not to butt into the life of the young uns. Fine lad Johnny adoring the young wife Shirley. Dixie tries to be a regular fellow, and only gets in Dutch for a while, as Shirley is a bit jealous. Hattie McDaniels as the wall-eyed colored gal gives you many a laugh. It's wholesome.

WARNER'S "THE BIG NOISE", with Guy Kibbee, Warren Hull, Alma Lloyd, Dick Foran, Marie Wilson and good support. Directed by Frank McDonald. Is the old story of the tired and retired business man who decides to do a little work on the side. The innocent cleaning and dyeing business pans out to be the mecca for racketeers, and as Guy manages that the rival racketeer gangs meet, — there is lots to do, and it becomes a dying business. Marie is dumber than ever, — in fact it looks like that gal is dumber all the time, just like a fox. Warren as the go-getting partner, and Alma as the daughter, provide the romance.

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Adolph Zukor Likely to Get Increased Powers with His Paramount Chairmanship

British Film Digest

*Special to The Digest from our London Correspondent
Dennison Thornton.*

WITH the advent of Easter or any other holiday it is the custom of the Londoner to pack his pyjamas and toothbrush and make for the railway station from which he will journey to the country or the seaside. On such occasions London empties itself of hundreds of thousands of these holiday-seekers, most of whom (at Easter and Christmas), are concerned chiefly with purging their lungs of the metropolitan fogs and the city's winter dampness.

The grand exodus, of course, is pretty beneficial to the railway companies, provincial towns and seaside resorts; but to London theatre and cinema managers it is not so exciting. The Piccadilly box-office receipts reveal a sharp decline in attendances. The opening of a new play or film does not go off with quite the bang that it should. Easter, Christmas, Whitsuntide, and August Bank holiday (those are our national and officially recognized public holidays) are consequently anticipated with much exhibitorial distrust.

This Easter, however, managers awoke to find that nature was siding with them. Blizzards, bitterly-cold winds, rain, snow and sleet combined to check to a considerable extent the metropolitan exodus. Thousands who would otherwise have sought the pleasures of the countryside, and the sea, remained in town and sought instead the pleasures of the theatre and the cinema.

London managers reported exceptionally good holiday business. Crowds sought the comfort and warm luxury of our super-theatres as a refuge from the wintry iciness of the open air. They piled into the Empire, Leicester Square, to see MGM's "A Tale of Two Cities". If they couldn't gain entry there they raced elsewhere for their entertainment — to "Things to Come" at the Leicester Square Theatre, or to Chaplin's "Modern Times" which continues to pack the Tivoli, or to "Desire", with Dietrich and Cooper, at the Carlton, or to Eddie Cantor's "Strike Me Pink" which is proving a huge success at the London Pavilion, or to "Metropolitan" at the Marble Arch Pavilion, or to "Follow the Fleet", at the Plaza.

A check-up reveals, that while all these films were heavily patronized the biggest business was done by "A Tale of Two Cities", "Desire" and "Follow the Fleet".

Criticisms of the Dickens picture were extremely favorable. Reviewers regard it as an even better show than "David Copperfield". Even Alistair Cooke, the B.B.C.'s caustic and vigorous film critic, highly recommended it. "Desire" was equally well noticed by the press, and, after opening to extraordinary business at the Plaza, was transferred immediately to another first-run house, the Carlton. The tremendous popularity here of Fred Astaire and Ginger Rogers made it impossible for "Follow the Fleet" to be anything but a first-class attraction.

As I write these lines the weather continues to be on the side of the showmen. It is biting cold, and a nasty mist is lying over the city. The holiday-seekers have returned to town, most of them lamenting the fact that they ever went away. Influenza is rampant, and wherever you go great sneezings and loud coughings mix freely with the hub-bub of traffic. An unfortunate Easter for hundreds of thousands — but a grand one for the London movie exhibitor!

Hagen's Activities

JULIUS HAGEN, who rocks the cradles of Twickenham and J. H. Productions, Ltd., and who smokes Corona-Corona Delicosos and looks like Ernst Lubitsch in a homburg, continues to be one of the home industry's busiest figures. Having just spent a pretty sum on an elaborate and spectacular talkie version of "Broken Blossoms" he is now preparing "The Man in the Mirror" and "The Fall of an Empire", two pictures to be directed and supervised by Maurice Elvey. Mr. Elvey, who directed "Transatlantic Tunnel" for G-B, has joined the Hagen circle in the capacity of producer with headquarters at Elstree.

A Shavian Cycle

STILL another independent producing company has been organized here, according to a bulletin just delivered to me by my postman. This time it is Pascal Productions Ltd., presided over by one, Gabriel Pascal, an Italian, I believe. He will produce for Paramount and his first will be a comedy, "The Midas Touch" by Cecil Lewis. Following this, Signor Pascal will devote himself to picturizations of Bernard Shaw's "Pygmalion" and "The Millionaire".

And while on the subject of new companies I might add that the recently formed Twentieth Century-Fox-British (what a mouthful!) unit under Robert T. Kane announces that its initial effort, "The Sport of Kings", will be directed by Glenn Tryon who was once a Universal star.

Lubitsch Gives Radio Interview

ERNST LUBITSCH, who has been holidaying here, gave an interview over the radio following his arrival in London. I was lucky enough to switch-on my set just as the announcer was welcoming the distinguished Paramount producer-director to the microphone.

In the course of the interview Lubitsch stressed that talent and personality were the most important qualifications for screen players today. Although beauty was still a big asset, it was no longer the deciding factor, he said.

Paying tribute to Charles Laughton, the Paramount production chief stated that he was regarded in Hollywood as the screen's outstanding actor. With regard to accents he remarked that the English manner of speech was on the whole liked by Americans as long as it was identified with English characters.

Asked about his production of the new Dietrich film, "Desire", directed by Borzage, Lubitsch said that they had tried to bring out the star's *real* personality. He thought they had also succeeded in discovering in Miss Dietrich a delightful sense of humor that had not been exploited in her previous pictures.

When asked for his opinion of English girls Lubitsch replied: "I've just married one!"

By the time this reaches print Lubitsch will be on the Continent. Following that he will pay a short visit to Russia before returning to Hollywood.

Austria's Chief Censor States British Films Need More Censoring Than American Films

British Film Digest

AFTER a successful debut on Broadway and in Hollywood Edmund Gwenn has returned to London to star in Basil Dean's production of "Laburnum Grove" now being filmed at Ealing. This adaptation of J. B. Priestley's excellent play is being directed by Carol Reed. Also in the cast are Cedric Hardwicke and Victoria Hopper.

Mr. Dean's next picture will be "Lonely Road" starring Clive Brook. James Flood has been brought from Hollywood to direct it.

Other important British films either in production or in preparation include GIB's "The Man Who Changed His Mind" starring Boris Karloff; Herbert Wilcox's "The Three Maxims", a circus story with Anna Neagle, Tullio Carminati and Leslie Banks; Capitol's "Pagliacci" with Richard Tauber, and "International Quartette", a J. B. Priestley subject; G-B's "Everything is Thunder" with Constance Bennett, Hitchcock's "Secret Agent" with Madeleine Carroll, Robert Young and Peter Lorre; Leslie Howard in his own production of "Bonnie Prince Charlie"; British National's "The Hills Sleep On", an Indian story, and "Madame Tussaud"; G-B's "Command Performance", a story of vaudeville life; Korda's "Elephant Boy" which Robert Flaherty is making in India, and "Revolt in the Desert", Lawrence of Arabia's celebrated book, which Zoltan Korda is filming in Mesopotamia; B.I.P.'s "Jumbo", the current Ben Hecht-Charles MacArthur Broadway success, and "Glamorous Night", Ivor Novello's Drury Lane musical spectacle.

AN ingenious and novel tie-up has been arranged here by Gaumont-British in conjunction with Selfridge's departmental store. G-B have opened a small preview theatre in the Selfridge building where customers to the store may have the opportunity of seeing special trailers presenting extracts from all Gaumont pictures running in the West End.

These trailers will be exhibited on a continuous basis from early morning until the store's closing time. Facilities will be provided for shoppers who wish to book seats for any of the "trailer-advertised" films they want to see.

Donat as the Prince of Denmark

HAVING temporarily set aside his plans of filming Rostand's "Cyrano de Bergerac", Alexander Korda announces that for the next few months he will devote his efforts to a picturization of Mr. Shakespeare's "Hamlet" with Robert Donat as the Prince of Denmark. Those of us who spend much of our time chronicling the activities of the famous and the not-so-famous, had long given up all hopes of ever seeing a screen "Hamlet". The scenario, however, has now been completed by Miles Malleon and production begins early in April.

Treating the original text as filmically but reverently as possible, Mr. Malleon has managed to cut the play to about 90 minutes. He has not rewritten any of the dialogue, but merely edited it very carefully. According to a statement by Mr. Malleon in the public prints, the script has been treated with the direct purpose of throwing the actual story into high relief, thus making it easier for the groundlings to follow.

In the meantime Mr. Korda is recovering from the strain of "Things to Come" on the French Riviera, while Mr. Donat is staging a play, "Red Night", in the West End, backing it with his own finance and playing the leading role.

Schubert British Film Producer

J. J. SCHUBERT, the eminent New York theatrical impresario, is entering British film production on a big scale. In conjunction with William Rowland he plans to make six musical pictures here, four of which are to be in technicolor. Each will cost £100,000.

Mr. Schubert, who discovered Al Jolson and Eddie Cantor, has left for New York for the purpose of arranging distribution for his British product. He will also sign up Hollywood names.

Mr. Rowland has been previously associated with Universal for whom he produced "Moonlight and Pretzels" and "Sweet Surrender". He also made "Take a Chance" for Paramount.

Meet the Exhibitor

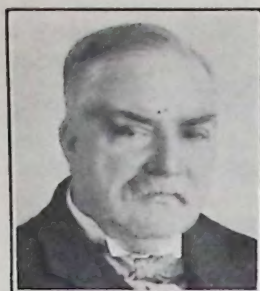
by Phil Stone

HARRY YUDIN . . . Mgr. of Circle Theatre, Toronto . . . young, husky 5 ft. 7 inches . . . Harry is a graduate of the University of Pittsburg's Law School . . . where he was a member of the college's baseball and basketball team . . . at one time he coached boys' teams in these sports . . . about him there is the glamour of sport . . . his walk, his way of directing words at one . . . for a time he was on the stage in the production "Right is Might" . . . Has only been in the movie business for one year . . . all that time as Manager of the Circle . . . is quite popular with his customers . . . has the type of personality that fits with meeting people . . . and Mr. Yudin rates the meeting of people as the best part of the business . . . would like to own his theatre . . . with a carton of Aspirins to boot . . . "The aspirins," he explained, "would be for the head-aches I'd probably get!" . . . gifted with a grand sense of humour . . . and happy in his job — like a child with a new toy . . . is Harry Yudin . . . star athlete . . . sports coach . . . lawyer . . . theatre manager.

THE Manager of the Roxy Theatre is Lou Appelby . . . who is also the theatre's owner . . . Lou lays claim to being the youngest theatre-owner in Canada . . . and as this slim young gentleman of slightly over five feet is still in his early twenties, there might be a lot in what he says . . . Lou started in the theatre game 9 years ago . . . he began as poster clerk with the M.P.T.O.A. . . . at night he was operator of the Greenwood Theatre . . . later he became owner and operator of the Regent Theatre . . . mighty young for such a big job! . . . with Morris Rittenberg he at one time owned the Independent Poster Exchange . . . giving this up to spend all his time at the Regent . . . the attention of this interviewer was temporarily derouted by a bevy of chorus girls on their way to participate in the Roxy's burlesque show . . . but as interviewing is this pillarist's method of earning coffee and cakes . . . we returned to the business of the moment. . . . sighing lustily . . . "To conform with the rising generation," Lou was saying, "fast-stepping stage shows will be in greater demand to aid box-office receipts." . . . Prosperous-looking, meticulously-dressed, Lou's favorite hobby is flying . . . he owns and pilots his own plane . . . so maybe burlesque combined with a single feature attraction is good box-office . . . at any rate as we left Lou . . . we felt that as far as he was concerned . . . the outstanding single bill policy could fly a kite . . . while he, with burlesque as his drawing power, flies an aeroplane!

Los Angeles Preview Reports on Universal's "Showboat" State It "Is Destined for Grand Grosses"

Conklin in Winnipeg



J. J. Conklin

THE Manitoba Motion Picture exhibitors are receiving the congratulations of the public on the success which is attending their newly formed association. It is rapidly developing into a live-wire organization that is likely to get somewhere in improving the condition of the motion picture exhibitor, and with him the film distributor and all others associated with that industry. It is always a hopeful

sign when men of an industry get together, in friendly association to frankly discuss and consider matters leading to their own betterment, and especially so when that betterment has an importance in relation to the public.

The Manitoba Association is fortunate, too, in the men who form its executive and its board of officers. Henry Morton is president; Joseph Pearson, vice-President; Frank H. Kershaw, secretary; and Mesho Triller, treasurer; while on the directorate are to be found such important figures in the industry as Frank L. Willis, Helmer Jernberg, Jack Miles, Samuel Morros and Ray Tubman.

The Association holds informal luncheon meetings at stated intervals where there is opportunity for a frank and free discussion of problems affecting the industry. Usually there is a guest speaker who discusses a question of interest.

At a recent meeting the Association received a communication to the effect that school authorities are experiencing difficulty with children who absent themselves from school to attend picture shows. As an effective method of checking this the Association agreed that while the attendance of children at movies during school hours was small, it was as well to prevent it altogether, and exhibitors in future will not admit children to picture shows at such hours unless accompanied by parents or guardians. This is just one case where the motion picture exhibitor can co-operate to the public good.

It is good news, too, to learn that exhibitors, reporting to the Association, are of the opinion that business in Manitoba is on the upturn. Film distributors contribute their share to such improvement by distributing still better pictures than last season. The quality of the product now in preparation for early release is distinctly better than for some time, state film exchange managers; and Winnipeg will see some very fine screen productions in the spring and early summer.

There is a wide field for usefulness for an organization such as the Manitoba Motion Picture Exhibitors' Association. For instance, they can carry out an educational campaign with the portion of the public which is found complaining of the quality of the pictures shown here, totally unmindful of the fact that Winnipeg receives its picture fare as promptly, and of as high quality as any city in the universe, of equal, or even larger size. Also it is well to impress the same public with the fact that Motion Picture exhibitors are in a commercial business, just as any other business man, and that, in the last analysis, the public can decide on the pictures they want to see. On the whole there is little or no fault to be found with the motion picture industry or the men engaged in it. The Manitoba Motion Picture Exhibitors' Association is doing a good deal toward dispelling false ideas among the public.

Fairweather in Maritimes

AT a recent meeting of the Provincial Chapter Imperial Order Daughters of the Empire held at Saint John, N.B., thanks were given in the report of the Provincial Film Convener, Mrs. J. Davidson of Rothesay, New Brunswick, for assistance given her in regard to information about the showings of British Films by several Film companies. Mention was also made of the fact, that on a number of occasions, when the feature picture to be shown on Saturdays had been considered too adult for children's comprehension, a special morning performance with a new picture had been held by several theatres in the Maritimes. On motion of the members of the Provincial Chapter a letter of thanks will be sent to these theatres. The film report praised the trend of the pictures as a whole, and asked especially for support of British Films.

MR. C. E. WALKER of the Bijou Theatre, Digby, a recent visitor at Saint John, N.B., spoke very earnestly of the improvement in public taste in pictures. He stated that in former years, when a feature was — what used to be termed "high brow", it was difficult to get an audience or a satisfied audience for such pictures. Mr. Walker adopted the practice of showing what he considered the higher class pictures, with a Western, or action film, and today, he says the people of Digby prefer the more educational picture. Comments upon the feature, which perhaps has something in it besides mere entertainment, are most favorable. Mr. Walker is a great believer in the "personal touch" in theatre management, and he is himself one of Digby's most popular citizens.

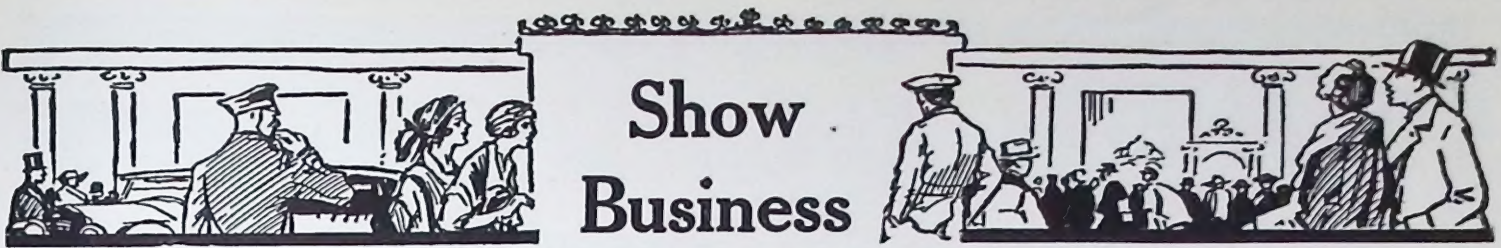
We regret to report a closed theatre, the Majestic, at Dartmouth, N.S. A. C. Pettipas, manager.

THEATRES recently opened in this territory have been, The Royal Theatre, Dartmouth, Nova Scotia, which is under the management of M. Franklin, and the Royal at Chatham, N.B., by Messrs Crockett and Raynor, formerly of the Marysville Theatre. The Royal will take the place in Chatham, N.B., of the Palace Theatre, which was burned to the ground several months ago, this leaving Chatham without a theatre open. The Royal is a renovated building, which was in former years used as a motion picture theatre. Many friends are wishing success to this new venture of H. C. Crockett and Graydon Raynor.

Mr. T. J. O'Rourke of the Gaiety Theatre, Fairville, N.B., has taken over from E. H. Cady, the Cady's Theatre, at Minto, N.B. and will open it as the Gaiety Theatre at that place. Mr. O'Rourke has had much experience in the theatre business, having operated the Palace and Gaiety in this Province for a number of years, and all his friends will wish him much success in this new undertaking. He will continue to operate the Gaiety at Fairville. The Palace in the North End of Saint John was closed some time ago.

A NEW theatre which will open shortly is at Freeport, Nova Scotia. It will be operated by Lloyd Blackford, who also owns and manages the Town Hall at Tiverton, N.S. The theatre at Freeport is to be called the Mt. Era and will seat three hundred. The population of Freeport is stated to be five hundred. At present it is planned to open only one night per week, and two evenings in summer.

N. L. Nathanson's Five Year Contract with F.P., Looks Like a Five Year Plan for F.P.C. Rumour "N.L." Slated for Paramount Board



Grant with Harlow and Tone in "Suzy"

Cary Grant has moved over to Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer studios to play one of the leading roles in the intriguing picture of World War espionage, "Suzy", starring Jean Harlow with Franchot Tone.

Lewis Stone also has been added to the cast, to play the role of Baron Dumont, whose own son betrays his country and who finds solace in his friendship with an American girl, to be played by Miss Harlow.

Leo Carrillo for "Gay Desperado"

Leo Carrillo has been engaged for the chief character role in "The Gay Desperado", the forthcoming Pickford-Lasky production starring Nino Martini. Following tests made of the actor, he was signed to a contract involving appearances in three subsequent pictures.

Universal to Produce "Hippodrome"

Inspired by the unprecedented praise showered upon its production of "Show Boat", Universal announces another spectacular musical for next season, to be called "Hippodrome". It is based on the life behind the scenes and on the world's largest stage at the New York Hippodrome of R. H. Burnside. The famous Hippodrome producer will act as technical advisor on the production.

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"Blood Lines" New Warner Film

Mickey Rooney, brilliant boy actor who scored an immense success as Puck in Max Reinhardt's film production of Shakespeare's "A Midsummer Night's Dream", will play virtually a starring role as the jockey in "Blood Lines", a Warner Bros. horse racing picture which enters immediate production.

Margaret Lindsay and Donald Woods will play the romantic leads in this exciting film, which will be directed by William Clemens. "Blood Lines" is an original screen play by William Jacobs.

Stanley Haynes Here From G-B Studios

Stanley Haynes arrived in New York from the G-B studios aboard the S.S. Champlain. He goes directly to Revelstoke, British Columbia, to take charge of the technical unit now photographing exteriors for "The Great Barrier". The film is already in production at Shepherd's Bush with Richard Arlen in the stellar role. Geoffrey Barkas is directing.

Alison Skipworth in "The Gorgeous Hussy"

Another stellar name has been added to the cast of Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer's "The Gorgeous Hussy", starring Joan Crawford. Alison Skipworth, of comedy fame, has been signed to play the important role of Mrs. Beale, an early nineteenth century shrew.

Robert Taylor to be Garbo's Leading Man

Greta Garbo's seventeenth leading man in her American film career is to be none other than Robert Taylor.

He is to be Garbo's Armand in Alexandre Dumas's (film) "Camille", which Irving G. Thalberg has chosen as one of the two Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer productions awaiting the star's return from Sweden.

Ruth Chatterton in "Girls' Dormitory"

Ruth Chatterton will play the role of teacher in "Girls' Dormitory", the 20th Century-Fox production based on the play "Matura" by Landislaus Fedor. Simone Simon will have a featured role.

Cast of RKO's "Marry the Girl" Chosen

Barbara Stanwyck and Gene Raymond, RKO-Radio contract stars, have been assigned to the leading roles of "Marry the Girl", to be produced by Edward Small.

Heading the supporting cast will be Helen Broderick, Robert Young and Ned Sparks.

THEATRE WANTED

By theatre owner of many years experience. Would like to rent theatre now operating, preferably in Toronto, or out of town. References from film exchanges. Apply

MR. C. FLOYD

348 Broadview Ave., Toronto, Ont.

Toronto Theatres

LOEWS—Manager Jules Bernstein — "Little Lord Fauntleroy", starring Freddie Bartholomew and Dolores Costello Barrymore. A United Artists release.

TIVOLI—Manager D. Krendal — RKO-Radio's "Follow the Fleet", starring Fred Astaire and Ginger Rogers.

UPTOWN—Manager Jack Arthur — "Peg of Old Drury", with Sir Cedric Hardwicke and Anna Neagle. A British and Dominions picture.

IMPERIAL—Manager Tom Daley — Al Jolson in "The Singing Kid", a Warner Bros. picture.

SHEA'S—Manager Jerry Shea — Universal's "Love Before Breakfast", starring Carole Lombard. On the stage—Major Bowes' Amateurs.

VICTORIA—Manager Bert Lang — Dunn and Atkinson's stock company in "Sailor Beware".

Pickford-Lasky-Francis Lederer Production, "One Rainy Afternoon," Gets Capital "S" for Success from Critics

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